

*Luc.* Sir, I know him, and I love him.

*Duke.* Loue talks with better knowledge, & knowledge with deare loue.

*Luc.* Come Sir, I know what I know.

*Duke.* I can hardly beleue that, since you know not what you speake. But if euer the Duke returne (as our prayers are he may) let mee desire you to make your answer before him: if it bee honest you haue spoke, you haue courage to maintaine it; I am bound to call vpon you, and I pray you your name?

*Luc.* Sir my name is *Lucio*, well known to the Duke.

*Duke.* He shall know you better Sir, if I may liue to report you.

*Luc.* I feare you not.

*Duke.* O, you hope the Duke will returne no more: or you imagine me to vnhurtfull an opposite: but indeed I can doe you little harme: You'll for-sweare this againe?

*Luc.* He be hang'd first: Thou art deceiu'd in mee *Friar*. But no more of this: Canst thou tell if *Claudio* die to morrow, or no?

*Duke.* Why should he die Sir?

*Luc.* Why? For filling a bottle with a Tunne-dish: I would the Duke we talke of were return'd againe: this vngentur'd Agent will vn-people the Province with Continencie. Sparrowes must not build in his house-keues, because they are lecherous: The Duke yet would haue darke deeds darkelie answered, hee would neuer bring them to light: would hee were return'd, Marrie this *Claudio* is condemned for vntrusting. Farwell good *Friar*, I prethee pray for me: The Duke (I say to thee againe) would eate Mutton on Fridaies. He's now past it, yet (and I say to thee) hee would mouth with a beggar, though she smelt browne-bread and Garlick: say that I said so: Farewell. *Exit.*

*Duke.* No might, nor greatnesse in mortality Can censure scape: Back-wounding calumnie The whitest vertue strikes. What King so strong, Can tie the gall vp in the slanderous tong? But who comes heere?

*Enter Escalus, Pronost, and Bawd.*

*Esc.* Go, away with her to prison.

*Bawd.* Good my Lord be good to mee, your Honor is accounted a mercifull man: good my Lord.

*Esc.* Double, and trebble admonition, and still for-geite in the same kinde? This would make mercy sweare and play the Tyrant.

*Pro.* A Bawd of eleuen yeares continuance, may it please your Honor.

*Bawd.* My Lord, this is one *Lucio's* information against me, *Mistres Kate Keepe-downe* was with childe by him in the Dukes time, he promis'd her marriage: his Childe is a yeere and a quarter olde come *Philip* and *Isaac*: I haue kept it my selfe; and see how hee goes about to abuse me.

*Esc.* That fellow is a fellow of much License: Let him be call'd before vs. Away with her to prison: Goe too, no more words. Prouost, my Brother *Angelo* will not be aler'd, *Claudio* must die to morrow: Let him be furnish'd with Diuines, and haue all charitable preparation. If my brother wrought by my pittie, it should not be so with him.

*Pro.* So please you, this *Friar* hath bene with him, and aduis'd him for th'entertainment of death.

*Esc.* Good'even, good Father.

*Duke.* Blisse, and goodnesse on you.

*Esc.* Of whence are you?

*Duke.* Not of this Countie, though my chance is now To vse it for my time: I am a brother Of gracious Order, late come from the Sea, In speciall businesse from his Holinesse.

*Esc.* What newes abroad i'th World?

*Duke.* None, but that there is so great a Feauor on goodnesse, that the dissolution of it must cure it. No ueltie is onely in request, and as it is as dangerous to be aged in any kinde of course, as it is vertuous to be constant in any vndertaking. There is scarce truth enough aliuie to make Societies secure, but Securitie enough to make Fellowships accurst: Much vpon this riddle runs the wisdom of the world: This newes is old enough, yet it is euerie daies newes. I pray you Sir, of what disposition was the Duke?

*Esc.* One, that about all other strifes, Contended especially to know himselfe.

*Duke.* What pleasure was he giuen to?

*Esc.* Rather reioicing to see another merry, then merrie at anie thing which profest to make him reioice. A Gentleman of all temperance. But leaue wee him to his euents, with a prayer they may proue prosperous, & let me desire to know, how you finde *Claudio* prepar'd? I am made to vnderstand, that you haue lent him visitation.

*Duke.* He professes to haue receiued no sinister measure from his Iudge, but most willingly humbles himselfe to the determination of Iustice: yet had he fram'd to himselfe (by the instruction of his frailty) manie deceyuing promises of life, which I (by my good leisure) haue discredited to him, and now is he resolu'd to die.

*Esc.* You haue paid the heavens your Function, and the prisoner the verie debt of your Calling. I haue labour'd for the poore Gentleman, to the extremest shore of my modestie, but my brother-Iustice haue I found so seuer, that he hath forc'd me to tell him, hee is indeede Iustice.

*Duke.* If his ownellife, Answer the straitnesse of his proceeding, It shall become him well: wherein if he chance to faile, he hath sentenc'd himselfe.

*Esc.* I am going to visit the prisoner, Fare you well.

*Duke.* Peace be with you.

He who the sword of Heauen will beare, Should be as holy, as seuer: Patterne in himselfe to know, Grace to stand, and Vertue go: More, nor lesse to others paying, Then by selfe-offences weighing. Shame to him, whose cruell striking, Kills for faults of his owne liking: Twicetrebble shame on *Angelo*, To weede my vice, and let his grow. Oh, what may Man within him hide, Though Angel on the outward side? How may likeness made in crimes, Making practise on the Times, To draw with ydle Spiders strings Most ponderous and substantiall things? Craft against vice, I must applie, With *Angelo* to night shall lye His old betroathed (but despis'd): So disguise shall by th'disguis'd Pay with falshood, false exacting, And performe an olde contracting.

*Exit*  
*Alcw*

## Actus Quartus. Scena Prima.

*Enter Mariana, and Boy singing.*

*Song.* Take, oh take those lips away,  
that so sweetly were forsworne,  
And those eyes: the break of day  
lights that doe mislead the Morne;  
But my kisses bring againe, bring againe,  
Scales of loue, but seal'd in vaine, seal'd in vaine.

*Enter Duke.*

*Mar.* Breake off thy song, and haste thee quick away, Here comes a man of comfort, whose aduice Hath often still'd my brawling discontent. I cry you mercie, Sir, and well could wish You had not found me here so musicall. Let me excuse me, and beleue me so, My mirth is much displeas'd, but pleas'd my woe.

*Duke.* 'Tis good; though Musick oft hath such a charme To make bad, good; and good prouoke to harme. I pray you tell me, hath any body enquir'd for mee here to day; much vpon this time haue I promis'd here to meete.

*Mar.* You haue not bin enquir'd after: I haue sat here all day.

*Enter Isabell.*

*Duke.* I doe constantly beleue you: the time is come euen now. I shall craue your forbearance alittle, may be I will call vpon you anone for some aduantage to your selfe.

*Mar.* I am alwayes bound to you. *Exit.*

*Duke.* Very well met, and well come: What is the newes from this good Deputie?

*Isab.* He hath a Garden circummur'd with Bricke, Whose westerne side is with a Vineyard back't; And to that Vineyard is a planched gate, That makes his opening with this bigger Key: This other doth command a little doore, Which from the Vineyard to the Garden leades, There haue I made my promise, vpon the Heauy middle of the night, to call vpon him.

*Duke.* But shall you on your knowledge find this way? *Isab.* I haue tane a due, and wary note vpon't, With whispering, and most guiltie diligence, In action all of precept, he did show me The way twice ore.

*Duke.* Are there no other tokens Betweene you 'greed, concerning her obseruance?

*Isab.* No: none but onely a repaire ith' darke, And that I haue posselt him, my most stay Can be but brieue: for I haue made him know, I haue a Seruant comes with me along That staires vpon me; whose perswasion is, I come about my Brother.

*Duke.* 'Tis well borne vp. I haue not yet made knowne to *Mariana*

*Enter Mariana.*

A word of this: what hoa, within; come forth, I pray you be acquainted with this Maid; She comes to doe you good.

*Isab.* I doe desire the like.

*Duke.* Do you perswade your selfe that I respect you?

*Mar.* Good Frier, *Duke.* Take then the Who hath a storie read I shall attend your leisu The vaporous night ap

*Mar.* Wilt please y

*Duke.* Oh Place, an

Are stucke vpon thee:

Run with these false, a

Vpon thy doings: thou

Make thee the father of

And racke thee in their

*Enter Mariana*

*Isab.* Shee'll take the

If you aduise it.

*Duke.* It is not my

But my entreaty too.

*Isa.* Little haue you

When you depart from

Remember now my bro

*Mar.* Feare me not

*Duke.* Nor gentle da

He is your husband on

To bring you thus toge

Sith that the Iustice of y

Doth flourish the decre

Our Corne's to reape, fo

Scen

*Enter Pro*

*Pro.* Come hither fir

*Clo.* If the man be a

But if he be a married m

And I can neuer cut off

*Pro.* Come fir, leaue

a direct answer. To m

*die* and *Barnardine*: hee

cutioner, who in his off

it on you to assist him,

Gyues: if not, you shall

ment, and your deliuer

for you haue bene a no

*Clo.* Sir, I haue bene

minde, but yet I will

man: I would bee glad

my fellow partner.

*Pro.* What hoa, *Abb*

*Enter*

*Abb.* Doe you call

*Pro.* Sirha, here's a

in your execution: if yo

him by the yeere, and le

vse him for the present,

plead his estimation wi

*Abb.* A Bawd Sir? fi

mysterie.

*Pro.* Goe too Sir, yo

turne the Scale.

*Clo.* Pray fir, by your

good fauor you haue, bu

Doe you call fir, your o